

25X1A

Handle via [REDACTED]  
Control System Only

TOP SECRET  
IDEALIST/TACKLE

COMOR-D-25/15

NRO REVIEW COMPLETED

12 December 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

SUBJECT: Recommendation for TACKLE Missions

Attached for the consideration of COMOR at its meeting on  
13 December is a draft paper submitted by the CIA Representative,

25X1A

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

25X1A

James Q. Reber  
Chairman  
Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance

1 Attachment  
Subject paper

Copies 2, 3--State TCO  
4--DIA [REDACTED]  
5, 6, 7, 8--DIA TCO  
9--OACSI TCO  
10--ONI TCO  
11, 12--AFCIN TCO  
13, 14--NSA TCO  
15--NRO TCO

25X1A

[REDACTED] 4875-62-  
Copy 33 of 37

25X1A

IDEALIST/TACKLE Handle via [REDACTED]  
TOP SECRET Control System Only

25X1A

25X1A

Handle via [redacted]  
Control System Only

TOP SECRET  
IDEALISM / TACKLE

COMOR-D-25/15

12 December 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chairman, United States Intelligence Board

SUBJECT: Recommendation for TACKLE Mission

BACKGROUND

1. A recommendation is contained in paragraph 7. The remaining TACKLE Mission for which approval has been given is for South China. This mission is specifically designed to cover any military build-up pertinent to North Vietnam and Laos. Missions to cover the Szechwan Basin and the Taiwan Strait area have been approved in principle.

2. The Committee on Overhead Reconnaissance considers that with the successful accomplishment of the North Korean mission, South China is still the primary target. However, the weather pattern in the area suggests that we may too long delay coverage of other important targets if we hold a mission until we stand a 75 per cent chance of obtaining good photography of the South China border and the pertinent access routes and military installations.

2

[redacted] 4875-62

25X1A

25X1A

IDEALISM

War Plans

Control System

25X1A

Handle via   
Control System Only

TOP SECRET  
IDEALIST/TACKLE

25X1D

COMOR-D-25/15



CONCLUSION

5. COMOR concludes that since each of the three areas described above, South China, the Szechwan Basin and the Taiwan Strait coast of Communist China pose peculiar weather problems, the order of coverage should be dependent on this factor. Unless multiple missions are approved, successful coverage of any of the three areas will require a 75 per cent probability of clear weather over the area designated. In the case of South China, a specific track has been approved by the Special Group. As stated above, the Szechwan Basin is roughly defined as lying between Chungking, Chengtu, and Ipin; but

25X1A

Handle via   
Control System Only

TOP SECRET  
IDEALIST/TACKLE

COMOR-D-25/15

a greater area should be searched. At present a shallow mission from Swatow to Ninghsien should be adequate for the Taiwan Strait coverage.

8. The final factor considered by COMOR is that these three targets lie within different weather areas. In other words, COMOR concludes it would be most unlikely to find acceptable weather at more than one area within two or three days so it is unlikely that South China would be missed while the Taiwan Strait or the Szechwan Basin were being covered.

RECOMMENDATION

7. COMOR recommends that the Szechwan Basin and the Taiwan Strait coastal area be added to the South China approval and that the order of coverage be determined by the availability of 75 per cent good weather in each of the three areas, bearing in mind the order of priority (South China, Szechwan Basin, Taiwan Strait) should weather break in more than one area.

4

4875-62

25X1A

IDEALIST/TACKLE Handle via   
TOP SECRET Control System Only

25X1A

25X1A

Handle via   
Control System Only

TOP SECRET  
IDEALIST/TACKLE

COMOR-D-25/15

Copies      1--DCI TCO  
             16--DCI TCO for USIB/S  
             17, 18--DER NPIC  
             19--C/CIA/PAD(NPIC)  
             20--C/DMD/NPIC  
             21--LS/CIA/PAD(NPIC)  
             22--TSO CIA  
             23--DEI TCO  
             24--OCI TCO  
             25, 26--OSI TCO  
             27--ORR TCO  
             28--DDP TCO  
             29--DDR TCO  
             30--AD/OSA  
             31--Intel/OSA  
             32--SO/OSA  
             33--RI/OSA  
             34-37--C/SRS/DDR

5

-4875-62

25X1A

IDEALIST/TACKLE Handle via   
TOP SECRET Control System Only

25X1A